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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

June 18, 2001

Applicant(s): Robin James SPIVEY, et al.

For: SCREENING DEVICE AND METHODS OF SCREENING IMMUNOASSAY
TESTS AND AGGLUTINATION TESTS

Serial No.: 09/760 374 Group: 1644
Filed: January 12, 2001 Examiner: Unknown
International Application No.: PCT/GB99/02261
International Filing Date: July 14, 1999
Atty. Docket No.: R&G C-317

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97, the Applicants take this opportunity to call to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office documents that may be material to the prosecution of this application. The documents now provided to the Patent and Trademark Office are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

This paper is submitted before the issuance of any first substantive Office Action for this application. Accordingly, no fees are necessary to ensure the consideration of the cited documents.

This application claims priority from PCT App. No. PCT/GB99/02261. Accordingly, the Applicants take this opportunity to call to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office documents cited in the International Search and International Preliminary Examination Report for this application. The International Search Report is also attached to this paper. As indicated by the PTO Form 1449, the Applicant also encloses the International Preliminary Examination Report and request that the Examiner acknowledge consideration of this document.

The sole document cited in the International Search Report for the PCT application is EP Patent Pub. No.


0 073 980. According to the Annex of the International Search Report, an English language equivalent of this document is U.S. Patent No. 4 521 522. Copy of this document is also enclosed.

The PCT Application upon which this application is based claims priority from Great Britain Patent App. No. 89815302.6. The Applicant's now provide the Patent and Trademark Office with copies of the two documents cited by the British Patent Office for the '302.6 application. A copy of the Search Report the British Patent Office issued is also enclosed.

The Applicants note that the documents cited in the British and PCT Search Reports for this application were cited only as being A-leveled documents. It is further called to the attention of the Examiner that the International Preliminary Examination Report for the PCT Application did not contain any negative statements regarding the novelty or inventive features of the claimed invention.

The Applicants now provide the Examiner with further documents they believe may be material to the prosecution of this application. Further commentary regarding any of the cited documents is not believed necessary at this time.

Respectfully submitted,


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Encl: Copy of International Search Report
Copy of Great Britain Search Report Appl. No. 9815302.6
Form PTO-1449
One copy of each cited document
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